

[4 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(xiii) Performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for attending crash courses.

(xiv) Periodical safety drives are launched to inculcate, safety consciousness among the staff.

**Increasing the number of coaches**

1527. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conventional type of coaches are being manufactured in excess of the target since 1991;

(b) if so, their excess number till date;

(c) what is the second class passenger earning, including sleeper class, at present; and

(d) whether such earnings are more than 50 per cent of the entire earnings of Railways; and if so, the reasons for not increasing the coaches of the second class passenger sleeper class?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In Budget Estimate 2000-2001, the second class passenger earnings, including sleeper class have been Estimated at Rs. 8137.42 crores.

(d) The earnings are not more than 50% of the entire earnings of Railways. However, the induction of second class passenger sleeper coaches is being done as per the requirements of the Railway.

**Doubling of Ernakulam-Kayamkulam rail line**

1528. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the fund allotted for doubling the Ernakulam-Kayamkulam rail line; and

(b) by when the work is expected to be completed?